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5 February 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, NRO

SUBJECT

Contingency Planning for Froject
OXCART

1. I am glad to note in your memorandum of January 29 that it appears feasible to hold all OXCART-type vehicles at at least until January 1965. This will greatly assist in helping to avoid surfacing until an operational capability has been achieved, or until such decision may be taken by the President for other reasons.

2. In this connection, at a meeting held at the White House on November 29, 1963, with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Director of Central Intelligence, and the Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, the President decided not to surface at that time and to review the matter again in late January or early February.

/s/

Marshall S. Carter Lieutenant General, USA

NRO review(s) completed.

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· CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Deputy Director (Science & Technology)

3 February 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Carter

SUBJECT:

Contingency Planning for

Project OXCART

1. McMillan's memorandum of 29 January on contingency planning for Project OXCART has one significant quotation:

> "....no decision to direct implementation will be taken without the specific authorization from the Secretary of Defense to surface the R-12."

As the result of the event of Friday last when McNamara attempted to do precisely this, I believe we now understand what McMillan had in mind. Fubini's role in the DOD ploy, I presume, became clear in his telephone conversation with you. I believe we must also assume that McMillan was party to the affair.

2. Since we have laid down the law to DOD on this matter, I propose that

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ALBERT D. WHEELON

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you dictate a memorandum to McMillan setting him straight on this point by making quite explicit that it is the Director of Central Intelligence who will make the basic decision as to whether the OX vehicle will be surfaced. Certainly after the events of this past weekend we are only reiterating the position we have now made quite strongly.

Albert D. Wheelon

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